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Date: June 27, 2002
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TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Re: Response to Final Office Action dated March 27, 2002
Serial No. 09/460,552
Filed: December 14, 1999

Attached:

RCE Transmittal (1 page)
Response (8 pages)
Drawings (2 pages – formals being sent separately)

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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number 09/460,552

Filing Date 12/14/99

First Named Inventor Dean, Jr. et al.

Group Art Unit 2872

Examiner Name Amari, A.

Attorney Docket Number HE0083

#7
Reg
RCE
J. McMillan
6/29/02

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53 (d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

- a. ☐ Previously submitted
- i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
- ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☒ Enclosed
- i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other

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2. Miscellaneous

- a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(f) required)
- b. ☐ Other

3. Fees

The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 19-2167.
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☐ Other
- b. ☐ Check in the amount of \$ _____ enclosed.
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Timothy J. Aberle
Signature	<i>Timothy J. Aberle</i>
Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	36,383
Date	Jun 27, 2002

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner For Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on:

Name (Print/Type)	Patricia L. Mesuch	Date	6/27/02
Signature	<i>Patricia L. Mesuch</i>		

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Patricia L. Mesuch
Patricia L. Mesuch

6/27/02
Date of Signature

#8/A
#12 to draft
J. McMillan
6/29/02

PATENT
Attorney Docket No. HE0083

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Dean, Jr. et al.

Serial No.: 09/460,552

Filed: 12/14/99

Group Art Unit: 2872

Examiner: Amari, A.

For: A FERRULE HAVING FIRST AND SECOND BODY PORTIONS WITH
DIFFERENT NOMINAL WIDTHS AND AN ASSOCIATED MOLD AND
FABRICATION METHOD

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JUN 27 2002

BOX FEE AMENDMENT
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20231

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RESPONSE

This Response is filed in reply to the Office Action dated
March 27, 2002. This response is being filed with a Request
for Continued Examination.

In the Claims

1. (amended) A ferrule comprising:

at least one optical fiber bore associated with a front
surface and a rear surface of said ferrule;
first and second body portions extending at least partially
between said surfaces and having respective widths, a juncture
of said body portions comprising an interface in the form of a
parting line, said parting line and said optical fiber bore
extending longitudinally at least partially between said front
surface and said rear surface, and said parting line defining
an offset of at least about 50 microns.